



# NEWS RELEASE

**Arizona House of Representatives**

**Representative David Cook (R-8)**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Representative Cook Applauds Enactment of Legislation Clarifying Return to Work Requirements for Retired Public Workers**

**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX** – Representative David Cook (R-8) today applauded the enactment of SB 1213, which was signed into law by Governor Ducey on Friday.

[SB 1213](#), sponsored by Senator David Livingstone (R-22), specifies that an employer participating in the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS) does not have to pay an alternative rate on contributions for a retired worker if the employer is already paying ASRS contributions on the position the retired worker returns to fill. The bill also clarifies the return to work statutes for Public Safety Personnel Retirement System and Corrections Officer Retirement Plan, including clarifying these statutes only apply when a retiree returns to work for the employer from which they retired. SB 1213 also limits repayments of a retired worker if it's determined that the worker's reemployment and an employer's failure to suspend the worker's pension were not an attempt to circumvent return to work requirements.

**"I want to thank Governor Ducey and my colleagues in the Legislature for their leadership correcting a serious flaw in our public retirement programs,"** said Representative Cook.

**"We were penalizing people that had served our great state for decades. When they completed their service to the state or county and applied to fill much-needed public service vacancies, such as in county jails, they were sometimes asked to resign years later and pay back thousands of dollars."**

**"SB 1213 fixes this issue and will no longer penalize these public servants for applying for public safety positions to continue to serve their communities and this great state."**

**"Thank you again to Governor Ducey and the legislators that supported this great legislation. It truly makes people's lives better and our communities safer."**

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